

Appl. No.: 10/619,535  
Amdt. dated 18 JAN 2006  
Reply to Office Action of 11 Jan 2006

## **II. Remarks In Response to the Office Action**

### **A. General Remarks**

Claims 1-51 were pending in the application prior to this Reply. Claims 1-5 and 7-43 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuing application. Therefore, claims 6 and 44-51 are pending in the application.

### **B. Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 6 and 44-51 are allowed. Claims 1-5 and 7-43 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuing application. Accordingly, all pending claims 6 and 44-51 are allowed, and Assignee respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance as the next paper from the Office.

### **C. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

Claims 1-4, 19, 22-23, 25-26, 28, 34, 39 and 41-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Bargellini (UK Patent Application 2170064). Claims 1-4, 13, 19, 22-23, 25-26, 28, 34, 41 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hiroshi (JP06111903A).

The rejections of claims 1-4, 13, 19, 22-23, 25-26, 28, 34, 39 and 41-43 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) are considered moot because these claims have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuing application.

### **D. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

Claims 5, 7-8, 10, 20-21, and 29-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Bargellini (UK Patent Application 2170064A) in view of Reichle (US 6,116,958). Claims 9 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Bargellini in view of Reichle in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art. Claims 14-18, 35-36, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Bargellini in view of Stout (US 6,394,813). Claims 24, 27, and 37-38 rejected under 35

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U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Bargellini in view of Applicant's admitted prior art.

The rejections of claims 5, 7-12, 14-18, 20-21, 24, 27, 29-33, 35-38, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are considered moot because these have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuing application.

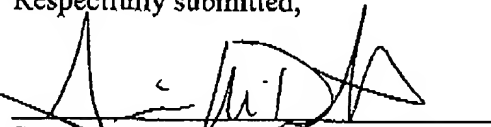
**E. Conclusion**

No fees are believed due. Should any fees be due for any reason, the undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 501922, referencing order no. 175-0002US.

To facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, Assignee respectfully requests that the Examiner directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion, reconsideration, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1-18-06

  
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